



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, April 21, 2008

Electricity

AEP's 675 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Unit in Texas Shut April 18

According to a filing with state regulators, the unit was shut to repair an air heater.

Reuters, 13:12 April 18, 2008

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106537>

OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuke Unit in Nebraska Shut April 20

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 100 percent on April 19.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 6 in Ontario Shut April 21

According to an OPG representative, the unit went off line in a forced outage. OPG did not report why the unit was forced offline or when it may return to service.

Reuters, 12:20 April 21, 2008

PSEG's 1,096 MW Salem Nuke Unit 1 in Delaware Reduced to 80 Percent April 21

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 100 percent on April 20.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Mirant's 450 MW Lovett Coal-fired Plant in New York to be Dismantled by 2009

For many years, the coal-fired Lovett Generating Station has received low rankings for pollution control and will be demolished by the spring of 2009. The operating company, Mirant, reported switching to a cleaner fuel was not economically feasible.

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080419/NEWS/80419014>

TXU's 1,150 MW Comanche Peak Nuke Unit 2 in Texas Ramped Up to 78 Percent April 21

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 27 percent on April 20.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

PPL's 1,105 MW Susquehanna Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 65 Percent April 19

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 38 percent on April 18.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Nuclear Plants in Illinois and Michigan Report No Damage from Earthquake April 18

Two nuclear power plants in Michigan exercised emergency plans following the 5.2-magnitude earthquake that shook southern Illinois April 18. Indiana Michigan Power's Cook nuclear plant and Consumer Energy's Palisades nuclear plant did not shut down their reactors and have reported no problems. Exelon Nuclear also reports that none of its six nuclear power plants in Illinois were affected by the seismic activity and that all plant equipment continued to function normally.

[http://www.examiner.com/a-](http://www.examiner.com/a-1348162~No_post_quake_damage_reported_by_Michigan_s_nuclear_plants.html?cid=rss-Michigan_Headlines)

[1348162~No_post_quake_damage_reported_by_Michigan_s_nuclear_plants.html?cid=rss-Michigan_Headlines](http://www.examiner.com/a-1348162~No_post_quake_damage_reported_by_Michigan_s_nuclear_plants.html?cid=rss-Michigan_Headlines)

<http://www.qctimes.com/articles/2008/04/18/news/local/doc4808ba5edf20e515220298.txt?sPos=2>

Update: Shell to Declare Force Majeure on Bonny Light Crude Exports – Shuts 169,000 b/d Production in Nigeria

The April 17 attack on Shell's Greater Port Harcourt Swamp pipeline forced the company to shut 169,000 b/d of Bonny Light crude production. Today, two more pipeline strikes by militant groups in Nigeria's Rivers State have led Shell to declare a force majeure on Bonny Light exports. The declaration will go into effect on April 22 and is expected to last through April and all of May. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) is claiming responsibility for the attacks.

Reuters, 09:07 April 21, 2008

Bloomberg, 11:50 April 21, 2008

Malfunction Reported at ConocoPhillips 260,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 18

According to a filing with state regulators, Valero reports that a wet gas compressor tripped offline at its Port Arthur refiner leading to flaring.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106555>

Bloomberg, 19:59 April 18, 2008

Update: Shell's 333,700 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery Remains at Reduced Rates April 21

While still operating at reduced rates, Shell anticipates that as the unplanned repairs to a coker unit at its Deer Park refinery are completed, the refinery should return to normal operating rates by midweek.

Bloomberg, 11:11 April 21, 2008

BP Reports Forties Pipeline System in North Sea Operating Normally Despite Shutdown of Grangemouth, Scotland Refinery due to Strike

Ineos Group Holdings announced that for safety reasons it is shutting down its 200,000 b/d Grangemouth, Scotland refinery April 19-20 prior to the beginning of an April 27 48-hour worker-strike. BP is seeking clarification regarding the potential impact on the Forties Pipeline System, which transports crude from fields in the North Sea with the refinery not only taking some of the crude but also providing steam for BP's storage and export terminal. According to the latest information available, BP reports that the Forties system is operating normally. Ineos has said that the shutdown of its refinery would have a "significant impact" on supplies of crude oil through the Forties System.

Bloomberg, 12:37 April 21, 2008

Grangemouth, Scotland Refinery Union to Meet With Ineos Management April 21 to Discuss Strike – Strike Threatens Scottish Fuel Supply

Reuters, 10:18 April 21, 2008

Reuters, 11:03 April 19, 2008

ConocoPhillips's 306,000 b/d Wood Cross, Illinois Unaffected by April 18 Earthquake

ConocoPhillips is reporting that the April 18 earthquake which shook southern Illinois did not affect operations at its Wood Cross refinery.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8675439.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

U.S. to Continue to Purchase Oil for Strategic Petroleum Reserve Even if Prices Remain Above \$100/Barrel – Secretary Bodman

Secretary of Energy Bodman announced April 18 that the government will not delay its plan to purchase oil this summer for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve even if crude prices remain above \$100 a barrel.

Reuters, 13:58 April 18, 2008

Equipment Breakdown Reported at BP's 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery April 20

According to a filing with state regulators, BP reported an unspecified equipment breakdown at its Carson refinery led to flaring.

Reuters, 14:57 April 20, 2008

Mechanical Malfunction Shuts FCC at ExxonMobil's 563,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery April 18, FCU Back in Operation April 19

According to a filing with state regulators, the fluid catalytic cracking unit at ExxonMobil's Baytown refinery was briefly shut due to suspected mechanical malfunction. No impact on production was reported.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106570>

Reuters, 15:12 April 20

SRU Restarted at ALON USA's Big Spring, Texas Refinery April 19

According to a filing with state regulators, the Sulfur Recovery Unit No. 2 was shut at the refinery April 19 and the cause remains under investigation. ALON restarted the SRU the same day.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106569>

Reuters, 15:43 April 20, 2008

FCC Restarted at Marathon's 239,000 b/d Catlettsburg, Kentucky Refinery April 21

The fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) was shut April 11 following a fire and has since been returned to service.

Reuters, 10:27 April 21, 2008

Bloomberg, 10:42 April 21, 2008

Pirate Ship Fires on Japanese Oil Tanker off Yemen Coast April 21

Officials report that a pirate ship fired on a Japanese oil tanker April 21 off the eastern coast of Yemen, leaving a hole from which bunker fuel leaked. None of the crew members were injured.

http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5ij-kQXQ6FOTI5F0-hlFm_9ODhaRw

Natural Gas

Pemex Reports Gas Discovery in Deepwater Gulf of Mexico May Hold 1.3 Tcf in Gas Reserves

Mexico's state oil company Pemex has reported a recent natural gas discovery at its Lakach gas field in deepwater Gulf of Mexico may contain 308 Bcf in gas reserves. Total estimated possible, probable and proven reserves for the Lakach gas field could be as high as 1.3 Tcf.

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Other News

Department of Energy to Invest in Three Additional Biorefineries to Develop Alternative Fuel Sources

The Department of Energy announced April 18 it will invest \$86 million in three biorefineries located in Maine, Tennessee and Kentucky. The facilities will produce liquid transportation fuels such as cellulosic ethanol, bio-based chemicals and bio-based products used in industrial applications.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200804/DOE_To_Subsidize_Three_More_Biorefinerie_10237.aspx

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 21, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	116.01	111.10	64.38
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	10.08	10.07	7.42

Source: Reuters

Freak Snowstorm Knocks out Power to 20,000 Customers without Power in British Columbia April 19

http://www.ctvbc.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20080419/BC_snow_april_080419/20080419/?hub=BritishColumbiaHome

Xcel Energy's 150 MW MinnDakota Wind Power Project Located in South Dakota and Minnesota Dedicated April 21

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10137380

Wisconsin Public Service Gets State Approval to Build 150-200 MW Crane Creek Wind Farm in Iowa April 19

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10142676

U.S. Crude Hits New Record at \$117.06/Barrel

Reuters, 03:57 April 21, 2008

Update: Kansas Coal-fired Power Plant Dispute Seen as Important for National Policy Concerning Climate Change

http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/581800.html

Federal Judge Temporarily Suspends Valley Fill Activities in West Virginia, Orders U.S. ACE to Notify Environmental Groups When New Mining Permits are Issued

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10137719

Update: Cheniere Energy Celebrating Opening of its LNG Receiving Terminal Sabine Pass in Louisiana, Secretary Bodman to be in Attendance

Natural Gas Week, April 21, 2008

ConocoPhillips Reports Unplanned Shutdown of J-Block North Sea Gas, Oil Fields April 20, Restart Underway

Reuters, 07:57 April 21, 2008

Bloomberg, 05:29 April 21, 2008

Automakers Say Congress, not Individual States, Should Set Fuel Economy Standards, Contending that State-by-State Legislation would be Disruptive

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/6862006.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Construction Begins on EverPower's 62 MW Highland Wind Farm in Pennsylvania April 17

http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/local_story_108231514.html

Xcel Energy to Switch to Soy-based Electric Transformers

<http://www.keloland.com/NewsDetail6162.cfm?Id=0.68558>

Direct Fuels Opens 10 Million Gallon/Year Biodiesel Facility at Eules, Texas Refinery

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200804/Direct_Fuels_To_Make_Biodiesel_At_North_10252.aspx

Lukoil Completes Odessa, Ukraine Refinery Reconstruction April 18

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200804/Lukoil_Completes_Odessa_Refinery_Reconst_10230.aspx

Natural Gas Explosion in Saskatchewan Forces Evacuation of Town April 18, Residents Able to Return April 20

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=10145845

Following Power Outage, PDVSA Restarts Willemstad Isla Refinery in Venezuela

MKW 05:00 April 21, 2008

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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